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# *The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

## *Department of Public Safety*

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### Minutes

#### **MASSACHUSETTS STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION ONE ASHBURTON PLACE, DPS CONFERENCE ROOM 1301 FEBRUARY 11, 2014, 1:00pm**

1. Meeting called to order by LaTeisha Adams, Chair at 1:10pm, followed by roll call

#### Board Members Present:

LaTeisha Adams, Chair

Guy Licciardi, Board Member

Joseph Krowski Jr, Board Member

Gary Litchfield, Board Member arrived 1:17

Quion T Riley, Board Member arrived 1:47

#### Board Member Not Present:

None

#### Guests Present:

Ronnie Drimer, DPS Program Coordinator

Mark Vaz, Matchmaker

Anthony Bartkowski, Executive Director USA Boxing

Lynette Smith, Assistant Executive Director USA Boxing

Edward Santoro, Massachusetts USA Boxing Promoter

Artie Depinho, Matchmaker

Gabrielle Duluc – Professional Boxer

Alex Kaplan, Directv/BKB Director of Sports Marketing, NY office

John Geiselman, Directv/BKB Director of Programming, NY office

Ted Suzuki, Chief Legal Counsel, LA Office

Mike Marchionte, Matchmaker in Rhode Island

Kevin O'Brien, MMA Promoter

2. The Minutes from the last meeting on January 15, 2014, were reviewed by members present: motion to approve these minutes was made by Commissioner Joseph Krowski Jr, seconded by Commissioner Licciardi. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

3. Boxer James Cappiello request to fight again after suspension was tabled did not show.
4. Motion to approve the suspensions for January 25, 2014 MMA event was made by Commissioner Krowski Jr, seconded by Commissioner Licciardi, Motion was passed by unanimous vote.
5. Commissioner Licciardi spoke about Gabriel Duluc July 27, 2013, boxing event incident where Gabrielle Duluc lost control after losing the fight in the ring and again when he went back to the dressing room. The fighter punched a hole in the wall. He has since paid for the damages. He was warned by Chair Adams not to let this type of behavior happen again. Commissioner Krowski Jr made a motion that if Gabrielle Duluc applies for another license he will not be denied based on the incident, seconded by Commissioner Licciardi. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

6. Approve Applications:

Motion to approve Linda Shields-Forman, April 12, 2014 event application for a pro/am MMA event was made by Commissioner Krowski Jr, seconded by Commissioner Litchfield. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion to approve Linda Shields-Forman, April 18, 2014 event application for a pro/am boxing event was made by Commissioner Krowski Jr, seconded by Commissioner Litchfield. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion to approve Karyn Wesch, April 5, 2014 event application for an amateur MMA event was made by Commissioner Krowski Jr, seconded by Commissioner Licciardi. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion to approve John Ruiz, April 26, 2014 event application for a pro/am MMA event was made by Commissioner Krowski Jr, seconded by Commissioner Licciardi. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion to approve Linda Shields-Forman Boxing/MMA Matchmaker application was made by Commissioner Krowski Jr, seconded by Commissioner Licciardi. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion to approve Kevin O'Brien MMA Promoter application was made by Commissioner Krowski Jr, seconded by Commissioner Licciardi. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion to approve Thomas Evans MMA referee application was made by Commissioner Krowski Jr, seconded by Commissioner Licciardi. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion to approve Monroe Hearn III Boxing Judge application was made by Commissioner Krowski Jr, seconded by Commissioner Litchfield. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion to approve Gary Forman MMA Referee application was made by Commissioner Krowski Jr, seconded by Commissioner Litchfield. Motion passed by unanimous vote. Commissioner Licciardi stated that Gary Forman will no longer be a match maker.

Motion to approve Sean Burgoyne MMA Time Keeper application was made by Commissioner Krowski, seconded by Commissioner Litchfield. Motion unanimously approved.

7. John Geiselman of Bare Knuckle Boxing/Direct TV Program spoke about the premium production, content and quality of service they provide. Packets were distributed to the Commission members and a video of one of their events in New Hampshire was shown. Chair Adams asked if the stitching on the glove would cause more injuries. John Geiselman said Dr. Berhan Yeh did a report for them and in the report it was noted that there was a slight increase in facial abrasions with the BKB gloves. The glove stitching could be modified if requested by the Commission. Commissioner Krowski Jr was concerned about the safety and questioned if they had consulted with a neurologist regarding concussion issues. John Geiselman stated that with shorter rounds, shorter fights and lighter gloves there is more control of the fight than in MMA. Alex Kaplan said they would like to do an event in Massachusetts in April. Chair Adams said there will be no more fights scheduled in April, at this time, due to the amount of events already scheduled. If there is a fight approved it will require variances required for the ring, gloves and length of bout times.
8. USA Boxing – Lynette Smith and Anthony Bartkowski handed out packets to the Commission including an overview of the official rule book, technical and competitive rules. A motion was made by Commissioner Litchfield to approve USA Boxing as the amateur sanctioning body in Massachusetts, seconded by Commissioner Licciardi. Motion unanimously approved. Anthony Bartkowski said insurance standards will be brought up to Massachusetts standards, \$5,000 for medicals and \$50,000 for death or dismemberment, medicals will include blood work, their bylaws, stats, event applications and officials' licensing will be completed by the end of the year. Paperwork for fighters will be stored in a secure place. Commissioner Licciardi stated that the 4% tax must be paid to the MSAC deputy by the end of the night of each event.
9. New Business

Motion to approve Ed Santoro as an Amateur Boxing promoter was made by Commissioner Litchfield, seconded by Commissioner Krowski Jr. Motion unanimously approved.

Commissioner Licciardi advised the Commission that Michelle Riley wants to put on event the same night as Karyn Wesch on April 5, 2014. If there is an application submitted the staff must have enough officials to work on each event before approving the second event.

This meeting adjourned at 3:34pm.

List of Documents/Exhibits Used at this Meeting

1. Linda Shields-Forman, event applications April 12, 2014 and April 18, 2014
2. Karyn Wesch, event application April 5, 2014
3. John Ruiz, Event application April 26, 2014
4. Linda Shields-Forman Boxing/MMA Matchmaker Application
5. Kevin O'Brien MMA Promoter Application
6. Thomas Evans MMA Referee
7. Monroe Hearn III Boxing Judge Application
8. Gary Forman MMA Referee Application
9. Sean Burgoyne MMA Time Keeper Application
10. USA Packet
11. Directv/BKB Packet